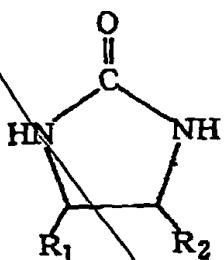


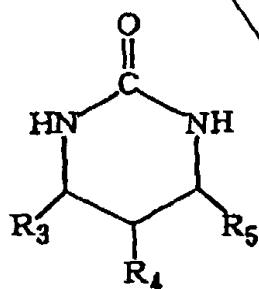
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An aqueous ink composition for ink jet comprising a colorant-containing resin fine particle, a pigment fine particle and a polyhydric alcohol, said composition further comprising at least one of a compound represented by the following general formula (I) and a compound represented by the following general formula (II):

General formula (I)



General formula (II)



wherein R₁ to R₅ are independently each a hydrogen atom, CH₃ or C₂H₅.

25

2. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the pigment fine particle has a cationic

Sub A7
cont.

hydrophilic group or the pigment fine particle is dispersed with a dispersant having a cationic hydrophilic group, and the resin fine particle has the cationic hydrophilic group.

5

3. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the pigment fine particle is self-dispersible carbon black to the surface of which at least one hydrophilic group is bonded directly or via another atomic group.

10

4. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the resin fine particle has a cationic hydrophilic group on the surface thereof.

15

5. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by said general formula (I) is contained in an amount of 5 to 15 wt% based on the total weight of the aqueous ink.

20

25

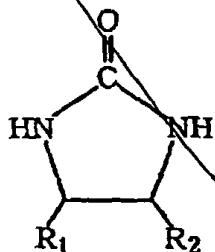
Sub A8

6. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein said polyhydric alcohol is at least one selected from a group consisting of glycerin, propylene glycol, 1,5-pentanediol, 1,2,6-hexanetriol, and hexylene glycol, and the amount of said polyhydric alcohol is in a range of 0.1 to 10 wt%.

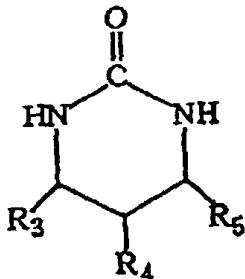
7. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the ink composition is used for ink jet recording.

8. An ink cartridge comprising an ink container containing an aqueous ink composition for ink jet comprising colorant-containing resin fine particles, pigment fine particles, a polyhydric alcohol, and at least one of a compound represented by the following general formula (I) and a compound represented by the following general formula (II):

General formula (I)



General formula (II)

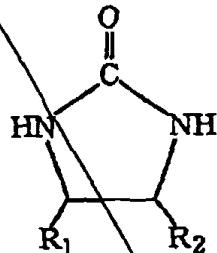


Sub A9
cont.

9. A recording unit comprising an ink container containing an aqueous ink composition for ink jet comprising colorant-containing resin fine particles, pigment fine particles, a polyhydric alcohol, and at least one of a compound represented by the following general formula (I) and a compound represented by the following general formula (II); and an ink jet head for ejecting the ink:

General formula (I)

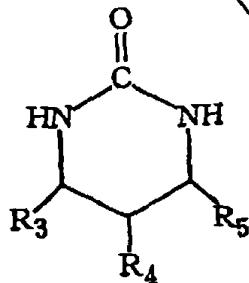
10



15

General formula (II)

20



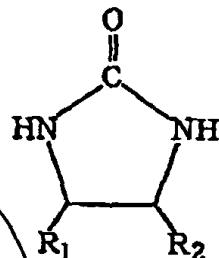
10. An ink jet recording apparatus comprising an ink container containing an aqueous ink composition for ink jet comprising colorant-containing resin fine particles, pigment fine particles, a polyhydric

25

*Sub A9
cont.*

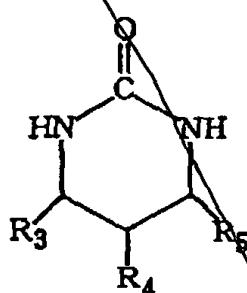
alcohol, and at least one of a compound represented by the following general formula (I) and a compound represented by the following general formula (II); and an ink jet head for ejecting the ink:

5 General formula (I)



10

General formula (II)



15

20 11. An ink jet recording method comprising a step of applying an aqueous ink composition for ink jet to a recording material by an ink jet process, said aqueous ink composition comprising colorant-containing resin fine particles, pigment fine particles and a polyhydric alcohol, and at least one of a compound represented by a

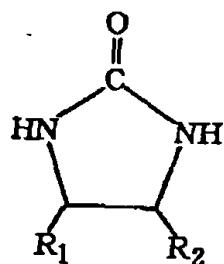
25 the following general formula (I) and a compound represented by the following general formula (II):

RECORDED BY RICOH CO., LTD.

Sub A9
cont

General formula (I)

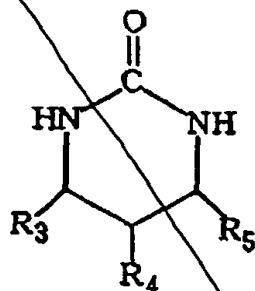
5



General formula (II)

10

15



add 7
B'